

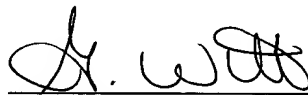
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In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g) and (h), this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and should not be construed to be an admission that the information cited is prior art or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the receipt of a first office action on the merits and therefore in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) a fee of \$180.00, as specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), is believed to be due. Should any additional fees be deemed necessary, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No.:01-2508/13137.0049.NPUS00/LWT.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered and made of record in the present case and that the examiner initial the spaces on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 to evidence the same.

Respectfully submitted,



12/17/02

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